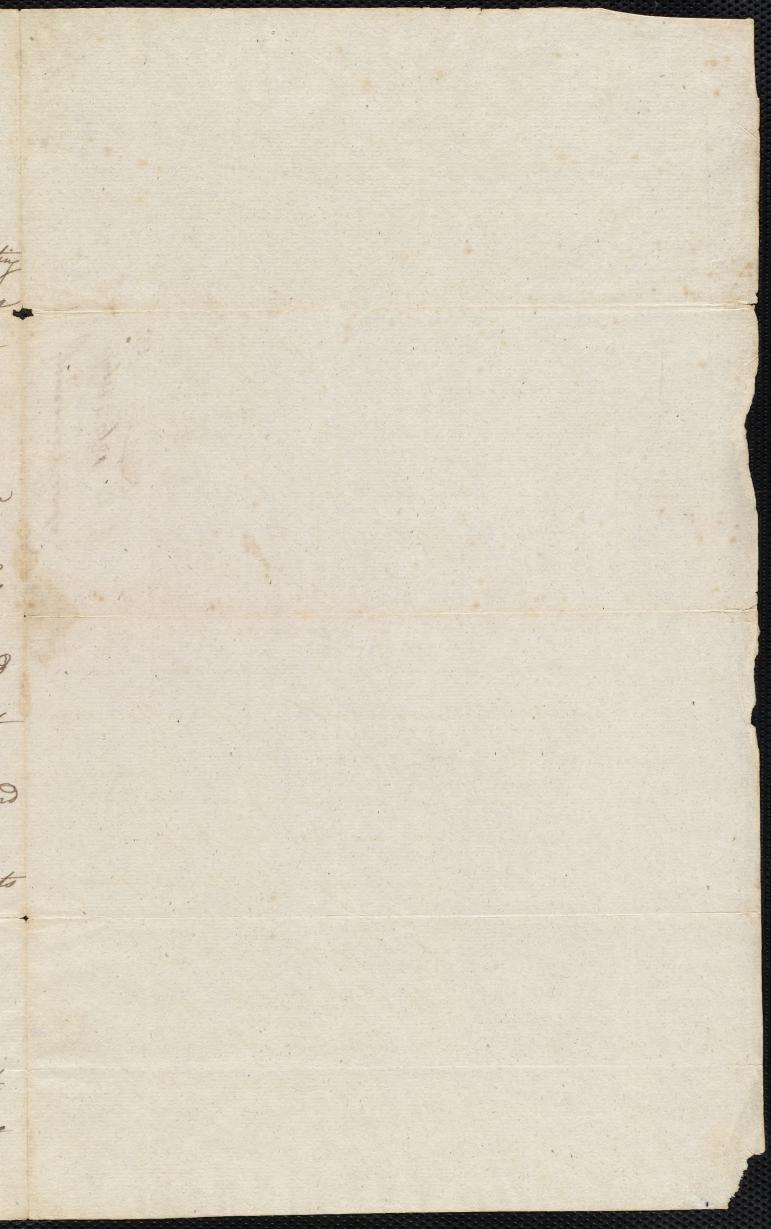
Head quarters, Continental Village, September 19. 1901. In the postferiph of mine of the 17. I mentioned that a fleet of about 40 fail passed whe he Sound on the 15th I have not from them fince, but am in expectation of further intelligence very soon. It was thought by some that it was a wood fleet only - It may be fo. I learn through another channel fince, that a number of transports fell down to the Hook the same day, faid to have troops on board -Not a hint has transpired of any certainty of their destination. The enemy are undoubtedly embarrafsed in the extreme on account of lord formwallis's fituation and have reafon to be for they wish to do formething to extruste themselves if possible, and to keep up the spirits of the troops - I have long felt promien for the eastern parts of your Common wealth. I gives me pain when I reflect on the enemy's having foot hold on Penoblect river. I think

they will ftruggle hard to have that valuable country confirmed to them - lind if when a peace takes place, the conditions should be . that each of the powers at war shall retain what they have taken, it will be a most humilisting confideration to Massachusetts. It is altogether conjecture; yet I have a jealoufy in my own mind that some of the vifiels which have lately sailed are destined to Penobsect. His Excellency the commander in chief has directed me to fend on after him one hundred head of beef cattle weekly; this will require your superintendant to be functual in forwarding the number required from your Commonwealth. I pray there may not be the least deficiency. I have no late news from the fouthward our expectations are high and fanguine. Please present my respectful compliments to your amiable lady. I have the honor to be With the highest respect your Excellences Most obedient fewant, His Excellency Governor Hancock.



General Heath, Lept 1981 MS. E. 9.